

**CITY OF LODI  
INFORMAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007**

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, November 27, 2007, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

**A. ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Members – Hitchcock, Katzakian, and Mayor Johnson

Absent: Council Members – Hansen and Mounce

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl

**B. TOPIC(S)**

B-1 "Review and Comment on the Annual Community Development Block Grant and HOME Program Allocation Process"

City Manager King provided a brief introduction to the subject matter.

Community Improvement Manager Joseph Wood provided a presentation regarding the annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Program allocation process. Specific topics of discussion included a funding breakdown from 1999 to 2007, predetermination of allocation toward City projects, and a sample two-tiered system for the allocation process.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Wood stated there does not appear to be other local cities with a similar set-aside program, but the County does have a set-aside practice.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. King stated the CDBG program originated from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and was designed to benefit low-income individuals. He stated currently the City tries to avoid providing funding to ongoing capital projects and concentrates on basic brick and mortar needs. Mr. King stated the suggestion is to segregate two pots of money: one for community-based organizations and the other for City-based capital improvement projects. He stated the more consistent allocation will assist with capital improvement based projects because the funding will be available in the future and allow for better planning.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated the funding would be available to not only Americans with Disabilities Act type of projects, but also to other CDBG eligible projects to address the responsibility associated with maintaining the City's assets.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Wood confirmed that the Library and Lodi Lake projects take up a majority of the funding for the City's current project list. He stated all projects have to meet the same criteria, which includes approximately 12 to 15 activities and a national objective, such as serving low-moderate income and eliminating blight. Mr. King provided an example of Lodi Lake being used for affordable recreation for low and moderate income and the necessity of showing that relationship to receive the benefit.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Wood stated that the survey is already done and it will be up to HUD to accept the results.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Wood stated park-related projects must also qualify as serving the needs of the required population. He stated throughout the years several park improvements were made with CDBG allocations.

A brief discussion ensued between Council Member Hitchcock and City Manager King regarding the ability to look at both City and community organization based projects so that they compete with one another to ensure that the most important projects receive the funding and the flexibility associated with the same.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. King stated that there is a much greater backlog of capital improvement types of projects, but only a portion of those needs are listed due to the assumption that application can only be made for a limited amount.

City Manager King stated that, aside from the fact that he anticipates receipt of large requests from community based organizations in the future, he believes the City should make a predetermination based on a percentage of what will be spent on both types of projects as a matter of doing business.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. King stated the matter will be brought back to Council for consideration prior to the call out for availability of allocations. Mr. Wood stated the timeline includes the annual application process from December to January, the application reviews from January to February, and the public hearing in March.

Mayor Johnson requested that information be provided regarding how other communities are handling similar requests. He also requested that the listing of City projects be inclusive to show the entire backlog.

**C. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl  
City Clerk